PATENT

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CLAIMS:

A tubing connection arrangement comprising two expandable tubing sections, 1.

wherein each tubing section comprises a filter screen sandwiched between an inner

expandable tubing and an outer expandable tubing, wherein the filter screen of one

tubing section overlaps the filter screen of the other tubing section, and wherein the

outer expandable tubing of at least one of the tubing sections extends over the

overlapping filter screens.

2. The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the outer expandable tubing of one

tubing section is arranged to overlap the outer expandable tubing of the other tubing

section.

3. The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the outer expandable tubing of one

tubing section is arranged to butt against the outer expandable tubing of the other

tubing section.

The arrangement of claim 1, wherein each filter screen comprises a plurality 4.

of overlapping sheets individually mounted to the respective inner expandable tubing

by axially parallel fixings.

The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the filter screen of one tubing section is 5.

initially of greater diameter than the filter screen of the other tubing section such that

the filter screens are initially radially spaced apart.

The arrangement of claim 5, wherein the inner tubing of said one tubing 6.

section has an end of larger diameter than the end of the inner tubing of the other

tubing section.

7. The arrangement of claim 6, wherein the ends of at least one tubing section

is upset.

8. The arrangement of claim 7, wherein the ends of both tubing sections are

upset, with a higher upset being provided on one tubing section.

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The arrangement of claim 7, wherein the inner tubing sections incorporate 9.

pin and box connections, and the upset on the box is higher than the upset on the

pin.

The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the end of at least one filter screen is 10.

provided with means for preventing interference between the screen ends when the

tubing sections are rotated relative to one another.

The arrangement of claim 10, wherein said means for preventing 11.

interference is a sleeve of extendible material.

12. The arrangement of claim 11, wherein the sleeve extends internally of at

least one of the filter screens.

The arrangement of claim 11, wherein the sleeve extends externally of at 13.

least one of the filter screens.

14. The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the filter screen comprises a plurality of

circumferentially extending filter sheets, each sheet being coupled at one edge to

one of the inner and outer tubing and having the opposite edge overlapping an

adjacent sheet, and means for reducing the friction between at least one of the filter

sheets and the filter sheets and the tubing.

A tubing connection method comprising: 15.

providing at least two expandable tubing sections, each tubing section

comprising a filter screen sandwiched between an inner expandable tubing and an

outer expandable tubing; and

connecting the tubing sections such that the filter screen of one tubing

section overlaps the filter screen of the other tubing section and the outer

expandable tubing of at least one of the tubing sections extends over the overlapping

filter screens.

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16. A section of expandable tubing comprising: two filter screens sandwiched between an inner expandable tubing and an outer expandable tubing, each filter screen comprising a plurality of circumferentially extending filter sheets, each sheet being coupled to the inner expandable tubing and coated with a low friction coating configured to reduce the friction between at least one of the filter sheets and the outer expandable tubing.

17. The section of claim 16, wherein the low friction coating is made from a polytetrafluoroethylene-based material.